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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SIMS NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

CHARLESTON -- Chris Sims of Charleston has been named Eastern Illinois University's Civil Service "Employee of the Year."

Sims, Eastern's February "Employee of the Month," was chosen from selected Employees of the Month during 1993-94.

"I was honored to be nominated and surprised to be presented with this award. My supervisor, Budget Director Kim Furumo and co-workers Ruth Coffey and A.J. Dorjahn are great and deserve to share in the distinction."

As budget analyst, Sims assists the budget director in building and maintaining a complete budget for the university. As representative of EIU's budget team, Sims strives to simplify the process so that educators may focus on teaching.

Kim Furumo said, "Chris is an outstanding employee who is dedicated to the university as well as the community. She has been instrumental in implementing the position control portion of the Personnel/Payroll/Position control system and has helped to establish budget decentralization."

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An Eastern employee since 1983, Sims received her bachelor's degree in business from Eastern.

Sims and her husband, Kenneth, have two children. Jim, 21, is an engineering student at the University of Illinois and Kristy, 20, is a business student at Eastern.

Her hobbies include golfing, swimming and bicycling. She is also coordinator of the St. Charles Borromeo high school youth group.